

Message Text

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FOR: IBS/PS, IBS/PE, IBS/PW, IEU

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SUBJECT: PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PERFORMS IN RIGA

1. (BEGIN TEXT) RIGA MARCH 14. THE NEW YORK PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CAPTIVATED A CAPACITY AUDIENCE LAST NIGHT IN RIGA'S PHILHARMONIC HALL. THE 12 YOUNG AMERICAN STRING VIRTUOSI, DIRECTED BY RAFAEL ADLER, PERFORMED WORKS BY JOHANN CHRISTIAN BACH, NORMAN DELLOJOIO, FELIX MENDELSSOHN, AND BELA BARTOK.

2. CONCERT MASTER ROBERT MCDUFFIE, THE YOUNGEST MEMBER OF THE ENSEMBLE AT 19, HAD THE AUDIENCE AS MUCH UNDER CONTROL AS HIS VIOLIN, AS HE PLAYED THE PROFOUND SOLO IN BARTOK'S RUMANIAN DANCES, THE FINAL WORK ON THE PROGRAM. THE PROLONGED RHYTHMIC APPLAUSE WHICH FOLLOWED BROUGHT THE ORCHESTRA BACK FOR BOW AFTER BOW, WITH MAESTRO ADLER WALKING DOWN THE LINE OF BEAMING MUSICIANS, SHAKING THE HANDS OF THE YOUNG MEN AND KISSING THE YOUNG WOMEN. FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE AUDIENCE'S ACCOLADE, ADLER WALKED TO THE FRONT OF THE STAGE AND, IN LATVIAN, THANKED HIS LISTENERS AND ANNOUNCED THE FIRST OF TWO ENCORES,

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THE FINAL TWO MOVEMENTS OF GRIEG'S HALBERT SUITE. THE APPLAUSE COULD ONLY BE STILLED WHEN, AFTER A LIGHT-HEARTED PERFORMANCE OF A SCOTT JOPLIN RAG, THE VISITING AMERICANS FINALLY LEFT THE STAGE.

3. THE PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, FOUNDED EIGHT YEARS AGO BY MAESTRO ADLER, IS DEDICATED TO PERFORMING LITTLE-

KNOWN WORKS, BY BOTH CONTEMPORARY AND CLASSICAL COMPOSERS.
LAST NIGHT'S CONCERT INCLUDED DELLOJOIO'S PULITZER-
PRIZE WINNING MEDITATION ON ECCLESIASTES AS WELL AS
MENDELSSOHN'S LATELY REDISCOVERED NINTH SYMPHONY - THE
SWISS.

4. BESIDES ITS PATH FINDING REPERTOIRE AND
HIGH LEVEL OF MUSICIANSHIP, THE PRO-ARTE'S TRADEMARK IS
ITS YOUTHFUL INFORMALITY AND THE FRIENDLY, EASY GOING
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MUSICIANS AND CONDUCTOR WHICH HAS
BEEN SO EVIDENT TO THE AUDIENCE HERE AND IN LENINGRAD.
THIS TALENT APPLIES AS WELL TO REHEARSALS, WHERE EVEN
QUESTIONS OF INTERPRETATION ARE DECIDED THROUGH A
PROCESS OF GIVE AND TAKE.

5. THE PRO-ARTE RETURNS TO THE STAGE IN RIGA WEDNESDAY
EVENING AT 2000 BEFORE LEAVING FOR VILNIUS, KAUNUS,
MINSK, GOMEL', KIEV, MOSCOW AND TULA ON THE CONTINUATION
OF ITS CURRENT TOUR OF THE SOVIET UNION. TOON

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